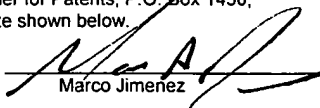


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV415770482US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 3, 2004

Signature:


Marco Jimenez

Docket No.: 482782005410
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masaki AIKAWA, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently herewith

For: POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
AND OPERATION METHOD
THEREFOR

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3681

Parent Serial No.: 09/829,335

Parent Filing Date: April 9, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is a preliminary amendment to accompany the above-identified divisional application. The entire disclosure of the prior application, application serial no. 09/829,335 filed on April 9, 2001, from which an oath or declaration is supplied, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying divisional application and is hereby entirely incorporated by reference.

The present application claims priority from Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-107026 filed April 7, 2000. All papers and documents required to make the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f) were filed in the parent case on September 26, 2001.

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.